

OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

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Weather: Dry conditions prevailed across the State last week. Precipitation was minimal. High temperatures were mostly in the eighties and nineties. However, along the coast, high temperatures only reached sixty-four degrees in Crescent City, and sixty-seven degrees in Bandon. Low temperatures varied across the State. Lows ranged from twenty-eight degrees in Worden, located in south central Oregon, to fifty-seven degrees in Portland.

Field Crops: Fall fieldwork and fertilization continued last week in many areas. Soil moisture supplies were very low across Oregon. The recent weather, while generally good for haying and other harvesting activities, has made the ground so dry that many producers can't do any fall seeding. Grass seed harvest was nearly complete throughout the State. Many fields were being burned, as weather conditions allowed.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Dryland pasture output was becoming very limited in many areas throughout the State. Rain will be needed soon for late-summer pastures to produce adequate forage into the fall. Pastures with irrigation facilities continued to water heavily to maintain conditions. Livestock were reported in good condition across the State with supplemental feeding common in many areas.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries are still in a summer maintenance mode but preparing for the fall shipping season. Growers are planning to attend next week's annual meeting of the

Oregon Association of Nurseries in Bend. Greenhouses are shipping fall plants to retail outlets and looking forward to the holiday season.

Vegetables: Fresh vegetables were abundant throughout the State. Processing vegetable harvest remained in high gear. The tomato crop in Benton, Linn, and Lane counties was able to avoid blight from last week's rain. However, there were reports of blossom end rot on tomatoes in Clackamas County. Potatoes were being prepared for harvest in Klamath County, whereas in Malheur County growers were almost finished. Yellow onion harvest began in eastern Oregon.

Fruits and Nuts: Northern Willamette Valley blackberries, blueberries, peaches, early apples and pears continued to be picked. Other berry fields were being renovated. Hazelnuts continued to mature and drop blanks; growers finished their final orchard floor flailing. Southern Willamette Valley apples, Bartlett pears, and some Asian pears were picked. Peach, pear, and apple harvest continued in The Dalles and Mosier areas. Southern Oregon apples and pears were picked, although Bartlett harvest is nearly complete. A lot of wild blackberries were still available.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 09/04/05

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	32	44	24	0
Subsoil	27	46	27	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 09/04/05

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley harvested	95	94	86	87
Spring wheat harvested	97	91	91	95
Days suitable for fieldwork	7.0	6.9	6.0	6.7

Crop Condition-Week Ending 09/04/05

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range and pasture	7	25	45	23	0

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Major field burning continuing as weather permits. Fields were being prepared for 2006. Apples that are available are being picked. Some Bartlett pears being picked. Nice peach harvest; it is seventy-five percent complete. A few Asian pears being picked. Hazelnut size looks very nice, and yields look good. Squirrels dropping a lot of nuts. Blank nuts dropping already. Blackberry, strawberry and blueberry harvest nearly over. Mediocre to poor crops. Vegetable crop in full production. Continue to see various vegetable diseases showing up. The tomato crop avoided the blight from the rain last week. Greenhouse and nursery crops are slowing down. This was an extremely variable year regarding yields. Grass seed yields ranged from zero to best ever. The grass seed crops here in the Willamette Valley are now all harvested and a good deal of the fall work has been completed.

CLACKAMAS: Field crop growers are preparing for fall seedbed preparations. Evergreen blackberry picking is continuing. Other berry fields being renovated. Apple and pear crops range from poor to non-existent. Hazelnuts are maturing with blanks starting to fall. Summer vegetable continues to be plentiful. Green bean and sweet corn harvest for processing remain in high gear. Nurseries are still in a summer maintenance mode but preparing for the fall shipping season. Livestock remain in good condition with most on supplemental feeding. Dryland pasture output is becoming quite limited. The light rain early in the week did little to alleviate the moisture shortage.

COLUMBIA: Drenching rain on Monday in some parts, otherwise nice weather. Irrigation necessary on nursery and corn, etc.

COOS/CURRY: Irrigation of pastures remains in full swing (where available). Cooler in the mornings with foggy areas particularly along the coast. Warm and breezy in the afternoons. For Brookings (Curry), low temperature for the period was 47.94 degrees, 1.35 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 92.6 degrees, 17.66 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.0 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2001-2004) average of 0.13 inches. Weather year precipitation stands at 74.33 inches, 7.46 inches above the 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004). Historical average (through August) is 71.53 inches of precipitation. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 47.86 degrees, 1.65 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 67.28 degrees, 0.87 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.00 inches compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004) of 0.1 inches. Weather year precipitation stands at 51.88 inches, 3.3 inches above the 5-year average (including 4 drought years, 2001 – 2004), and still 6.86 inches below the historic average of 58.74 inches (through August).

DOUGLAS: Hot and dry. Normal field activities including supplemental feeding and cattle rotation.

JACKSON: Still some grain harvest being done. Second cuttings of grass hay in progress and some second/third cuttings of alfalfa. Ground has been too dry to do any fall grain planting. Some ground preparation but rain is really needed. Wheat and barley harvest is being wrapped up. Apple and pear harvest continues with good weather for the harvest; however, almost all Bartlett pears are harvested. Still lots of wild blackberries, but only where they can get water to produce the fruit. A

few peaches and plums still available. Vegetable harvest is still being done with lots of good fresh vegetables at the farmers markets and roadside stands. Greenhouses getting fall plants started. Nurseries busy watering and plant maintenance. Livestock looking quite good if on good irrigated ground. It is taking lots of irrigating to keep pastures coming on. Need rain soon if we are to get any fall pasture on dry ground. It was not quite as hot this week but still very dry with very little dew even though nights have been cooler. Good haying weather and other harvesting. Irrigated pastures are starting to grow again with the cooler weather that we have had for the last week.

JOSEPHINE: Winding down in truck gardens--still have corn and tomatoes, peppers and summer squash but the heat is taking its toll on other crops. Some planting for fall or winter harvest. Ground preparation for fall planting of lawns, shrubs and trees. Livestock looks good but they are not on free range land here. Second cutting of hay continues on those fields that will have one. The late first cutting and late getting water to the fields cut into the second harvest. Excessive heat was a problem. Night time temperatures are cooler, and nights are longer. Day temperatures are very comfortable relatively speaking.

MARION: Cool nights and warm days. Fields are being worked for fall plantings; fall tillage work is increasing in dry, dusty soil. Grass seed harvest nearly complete. Straw sheds are full. Green bean harvest is about done. Sweet corn and green pepper harvest to begin this week. Hop harvest is in full swing. Second cutting on double cut mint is being harvested. Field crop harvests are winding down. Temperatures dropped some and a couple of brief showers fell midweek. There were 7 days suitable for field work. Moisture is still short in non-irrigated ground.

POLK: Field preparation for planting. Fall planting of cover crops has started. Temperatures have been in the low 80s with nightly temperatures in the 40's in some areas. Grass seed harvest has finished and clover seed harvest is wrapping up. If there is any rain, grass seed will go in mid month. Small grains will go in October. Final cutting of alfalfa is underway. This final cutting is the third for some operations and the fourth cutting for others. Hay being fed to cattle on non-irrigated pasture. Peaches have been pretty good this year. Polk County has received a Secretarial Natural Disaster Determination effective August 31, 2005 due to rain and cool temperatures this spring. The vole damage this year has been widespread and erratic destruction in areas and on farms.

WASHINGTON: Field corn setting ears. Third cutting hay baled. Beets for seed combined and fields ripped. Small grains still to be combined. Red and other clover being prepared for harvest. All berries still bearing but slowing considerably. Squirrel, Scrub Jay and blank drops occurring in filberts. Walnuts sizing and the crop appears normal. Sweet corn topping ongoing and picking started. Irrigation continues. All varieties of vegetables abundant but there is some black ends on tomatoes. New sets being planted and irrigated. Green crops plowed under and soil preparation for new plantings are underway. Pastures are dry, some of the irrigated pastures are doing fair.

YAMHILL: Hazelnut growers finished their final orchard floor flailing. Nut drop will continue until harvest. Peach harvest continues. Mid-season apple varieties are being harvested.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: Dry conditions continue throughout Baker County. Late summer pasture is growing increasingly short, due to lack of moisture. Producers are reporting above average winter grain yields, with reports of below average spring grain yields. Third cutting of hay is under way, for those producers fortunate enough to have late season water.

GILLIAM: The range conditions from the north end to mid-county are in very bad condition.

KLAMATH: Cooler day and night temperatures. Grain and mint harvest continues. Some second cutting hay harvest continues. Potatoes are being prepared for harvest. Frost during the past week.

MALHEUR: Clear weather all last week. Harvesting of yellow onions has begun. Potato harvest is complete in some areas. Bean harvest is about half finished. Fourth cutting of alfalfa has started. Alfalfa seed harvest should be starting this week.

MORROW: We have not had any rain to start a fall greenup.

SHERMAN: Seeding has not started as of this date. Summer fallow is dry and most producers are waiting for fall rains. Hope Mother Nature accommodates!

UNION: Lack of moisture continues to be a problem. Fire danger is extreme.

WALLOWA: Harvest is progressing throughout the County. Cooler temperatures have helped but rain is needed very badly.

WASCO: Grain harvest is completed for this year. Field cultivation and fertilization continued on summer-fallow and no till acreage being readied for fall winter wheat planting. Grain planting will start first in the Tygh Ridge and Center Ridge areas. Rain would be welcome before seeding is started. Fruit harvest of peaches, pears and apples continued in The Dalles and Mosier. Final alfalfa hay cutting is under way. Livestock are holding their own on dwindling pasture conditions. No rainfall this week.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: September 4, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)

Station	Air temperature ¹				Growing ² Degree days		Last week precip. ³			Season cum. Precipitation ⁴			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	48	72	61	+1	77	+7	0.09	-0.38	4	61.25	-5.36	92	190
Bandon ⁵	48	67	59	+2	63	+7	-	-0.30	-	57.42	-1.61	97	161
Crescent City	50	64	57	-3	49	-14	0.03	-0.25	2	56.26	-9.07	86	140
Florence	40	76	59	-3	65	-12	0.01	-0.41	1	65.44	-11.19	85	170
Tillamook	43	69	57	-3	51	-12	0.50	-0.12	2	74.54	-14.36	84	189
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁵	51	87	65	+1	108	+6	0.19	-0.14	1	32.21	-8.99	78	161
Corvallis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Detroit Lake ⁵	48	91	64	+5	101	+32	0.21	-0.20	2	41.84	-25.89	62	117
Eugene	48	88	65	-2	105	-6	0.38	0.03	2	26.69	-22.83	54	147
Hillsboro	48	86	64	-1	97	+0	0.08	-0.20	2	26.64	-11.05	71	159
McMinnville	44	90	65	+0	104	+1	0.10	-0.17	2	25.13	-18.17	58	160
Portland	57	85	67	+0	119	+2	1.05	0.70	2	29.08	-7.37	80	163
Salem	50	87	65	+0	106	+1	0.05	-0.22	2	26.70	-12.58	68	143
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	46	92	68	-1	129	-1	0.07	-0.07	1	28.93	-2.14	93	113
Medford	47	94	69	-2	136	-2	-	-0.14	-	17.78	-1.14	94	97
Roseburg	50	89	67	-1	120	+1	-	-0.21	-	28.45	-4.37	87	121
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	42	91	62	+1	89	+5	-	-0.21	-	11.36	-2.78	80	95
Echo ⁵	47	88	67	-2	120	-6	-	-0.14	-	5.28	-3.74	59	105
Heppner	47	93	66	+1	111	+1	-	-0.17	-	10.73	-3.24	77	106
Hermiston	47	90	68	-1	124	-2	-	-0.14	-	6.03	-2.99	67	66
John Day	46	96	67	+4	119	+21	-	-0.21	-	12.19	-1.23	91	114
Madras ⁵	40	87	61	-3	79	-13	-	-0.14	-	9.39	-1.09	90	111
Moro	46	89	65	+2	104	+7	-	-0.14	-	8.76	-2.42	78	96
Parkdale ⁵	42	86	60	-4	73	-25	0.01	-0.20	1	20.42	-10.49	66	140
Pendleton	48	89	67	-2	117	-11	-	-0.13	-	8.82	-3.26	73	95
The Dalles	53	92	69	+6	134	+37	-	-0.14	-	9.19	-3.38	73	91
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁵	33	86	59	-1	61	-5	-	-0.14	-	13.39	-2.87	82	86
Bend	39	89	60	+0	69	+0	-	-0.14	-	12.45	0.69	106	81
Burns	33	87	60	+1	72	+1	-	-0.14	-	12.62	2.60	126	99
Christmas Valley ⁵	30	86	57	-7	53	-42	-	-0.14	-	10.39	-2.05	84	94
Klamath Falls	34	87	61	-3	76	-18	-	-0.14	-	11.43	-2.13	84	83
Klamath Falls ⁵	35	85	61	-3	78	-16	-	-0.14	-	10.69	-2.87	79	116
Lakeview	34	84	60	-2	74	-9	-	-0.14	-	7.90	-7.78	50	65
Lorella ⁵	32	87	59	-5	65	-29	-	-0.14	-	12.72	-0.84	94	126
Redmond	36	88	60	-3	69	-13	-	-0.13	-	9.87	1.24	114	88
Worden ⁵	28	86	59	-5	63	-31	-	-0.14	-	10.70	-2.86	79	102
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	35	87	60	-2	75	-11	-	-0.21	-	10.86	-0.10	99	94
Joseph	40	93	63	+7	93	+37	-	-0.28	-	18.46	-6.51	74	130
La Grande	39	88	63	-2	94	-11	-	-0.24	-	12.00	-5.55	68	96
Prairie City ⁵	39	86	60	+6	73	+24	-	-0.28	-	13.45	-7.57	64	90
Union	37	91	63	+2	95	+6	-	-0.28	-	14.54	0.64	105	109
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	45	93	68	+0	131	-1	-	-0.14	-	7.77	-1.97	80	63
Rome	36	94	65	-1	105	+0	-	-0.14	-	8.05	-0.29	97	75

¹ Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. ² Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. ³ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. ⁴ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2005. ⁵ Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.
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